50325-0785 (SEQ NO 7583)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Geoffrey Huang, et al	)	Confirmation No.: 7960
		)	
Serial No.:	10/625,445	)	Examiner: Samson B. Lemma
		)	
Filing Date:	July 22, 2003	)	Art Unit: 2132

For: Method and Apparatus for Electing a Leader Node in a Computer Network

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 12, 2007, the shortened statutory

period for which runs until April 12, 2007, extended one (1) month by petition for extension of

time herein to May 12, 2007.

Claims 1-71 are pending in the application. No claims are amended. No claims are

cancelled. No new claims are added.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowability of claims 10, 17, 36, 51

and 66.

I.   ISSUES RELATING TO CITED PRIOR ART

A.   <u>CLAIMS 1, 4–9, 15–16, 19–23, 26–27, 30–35, 41–42, 45–50, 56–57, 60–65 AND</u>

<u>71—GUPTA</u>

Claims 1, 4–9, 15–16, 19–23, 26–27, 30–35, 41–42, 45–50, 56–57, 60–65 and 71 are

rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by a publication, entitled "A

Probabilistically Correct Leader Election Protocol for Large Groups," of Indranil Gupta et al.

("*Gupta*"). A claim is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) only if each and every step or